The Inner Workings of Shader-Based Procedural Animations

FORTNITE

GDC 2013 San Francisco, CA March 25-29, 2013

Introduction: Personal





Name: Company: Duties:

Jonathan Lindquist Occupation: Technical Artist **Epic Games**

- **Author shaders**
- Generate art
- Write scripts
- Miscellaneous tasks

Previous Co.: Raven Software



Introduction: Project





FORTNITE

- » Stylized
- > Action
- Co-operative
- > Building



Introduction - Project







- Bounce effects
- Stylized culling
- Self-building player walls
- Conclusion







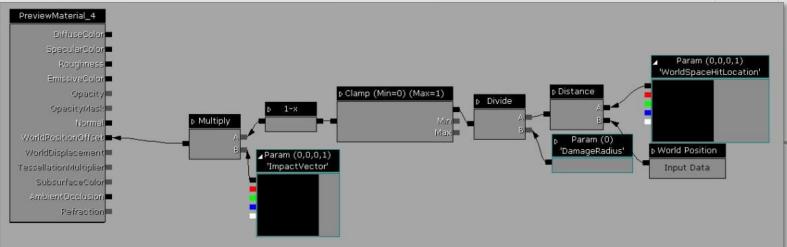










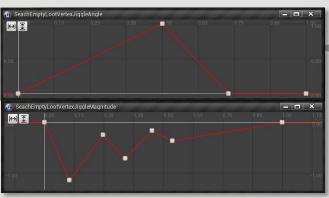














- Stylized culling
- Self-building player walls
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Fortnite's Vertex Shaders Stylized Culling







Stylized Culling

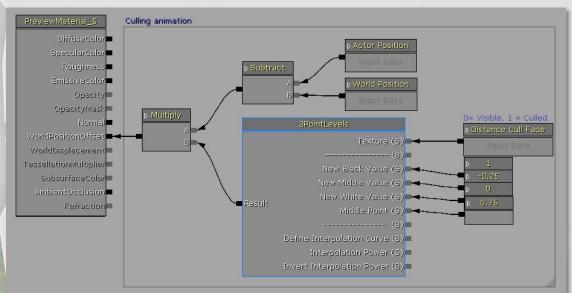


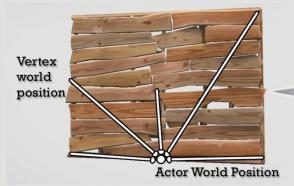


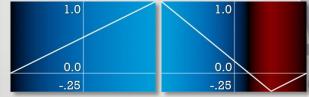


Stylized Culling











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Self-Building Structures: Intro







Self-Building Structures: Intro



Goals:

- » Build structures in-game
- > Visually indicate structure health
- Create an efficient system



Self-Building Structures: Intro







Self-Building Structures: Intro





http://udn.epicgames.com/Three/PivotPainterTool.html



Self-Building Structures: Scripting

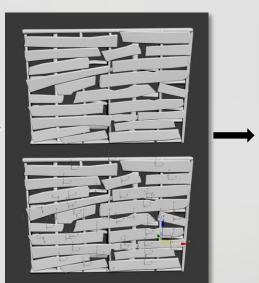
GAMES

- Scripting
- Model Transformations
 - Translations
 - Rotations
- Animation
 - Secondary motion
- Masking



Self-Building Structures: Scripting











- Pivot Position
- Child X-Axis
- Random Value Per Element
- Custom Alpha Values
- Object Scale





http://udn.epicgames.com/Three/PivotPainterTool.html

Self-Building Structures: Scripting







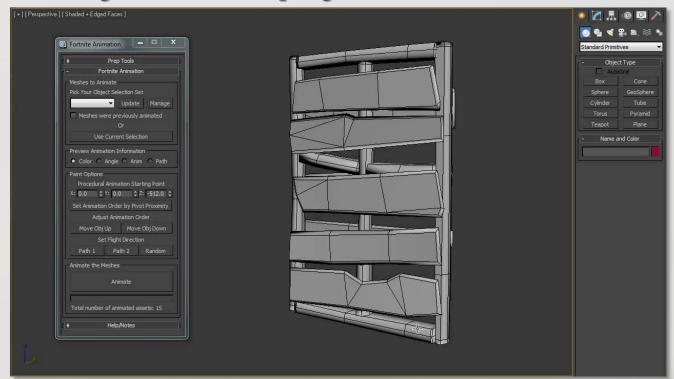
Self-Building Structures: Scripting







Self-Building Structures: Scripting





Self-Building Structures: Script Modifications





Object Data Stored:

- Random value
- Pivot position
- Axis of rotation
- Animation Order
- l-bit flight path
- Number of boards



Self-Building Structures: Script Modifications



Tips:

- > UV values are inaccurate
- > Avoid unnecessary scripting
- > Make debugging assets simple
- Efficient data layout



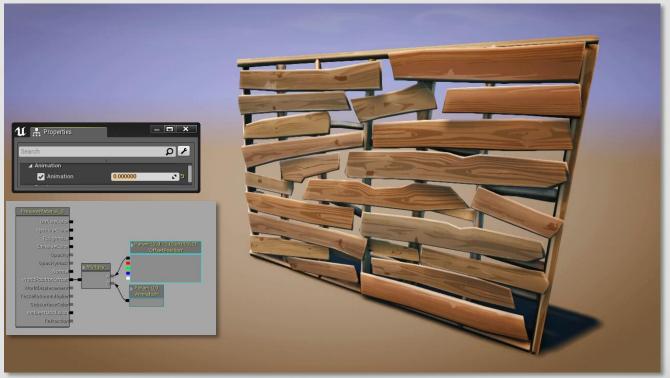
Self-Building Structures: Model Transformations



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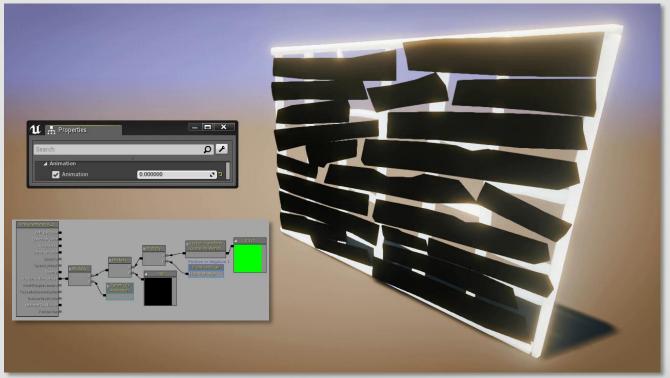






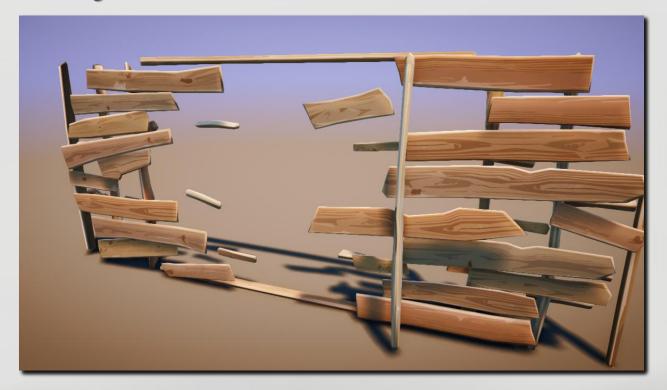






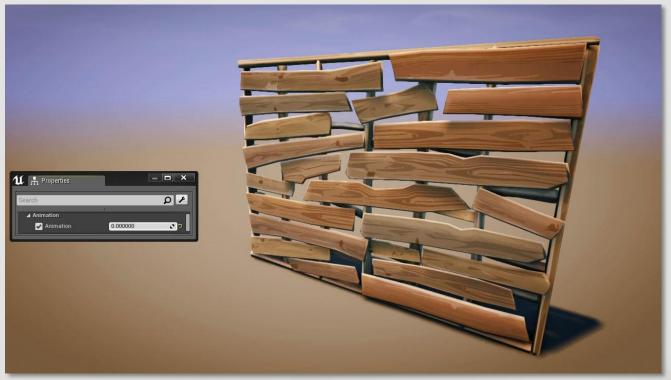














Self-Building Structures: Value Animation Elements



- Scripting
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Self-Building Structures: Model Rotation





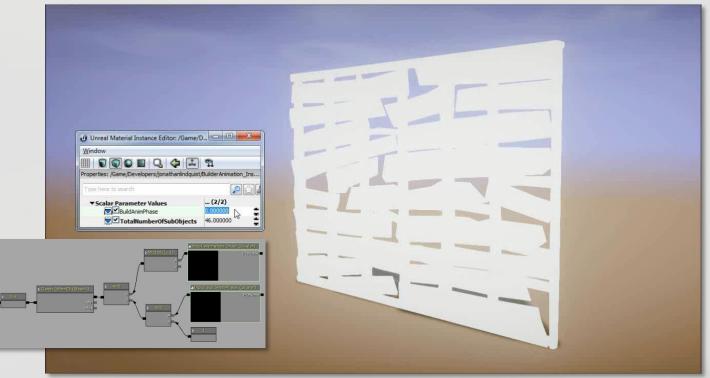




- Scripting
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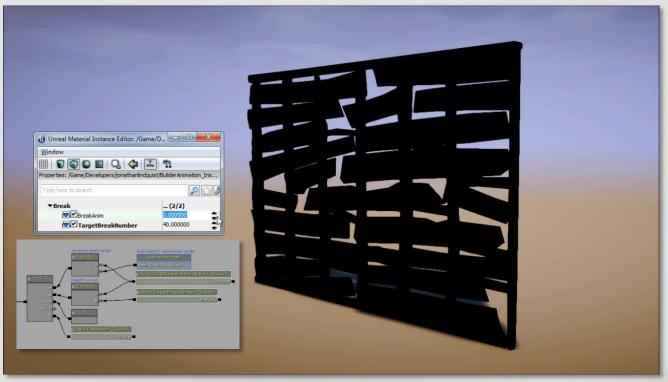






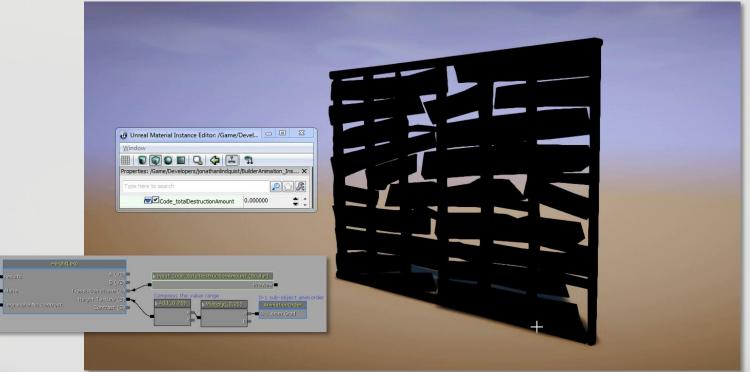














Self-Building Structures: Secondary Motion

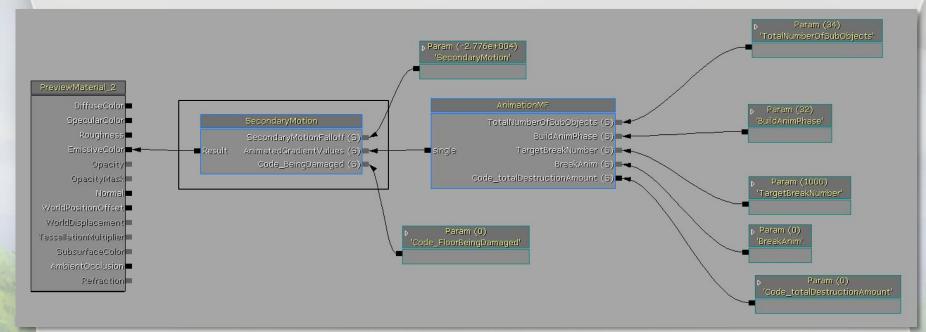
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Self-Building Structures: Secondary Motion

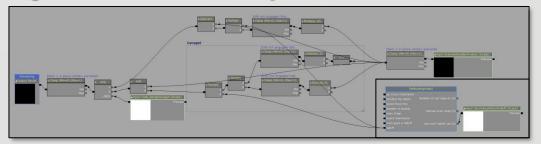


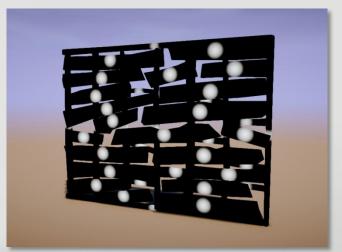


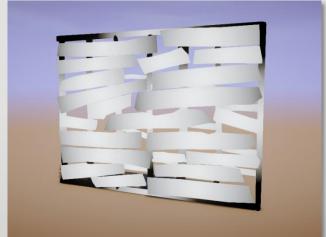


Self-Building Structures: Secondary Motion





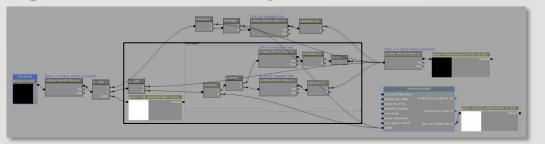




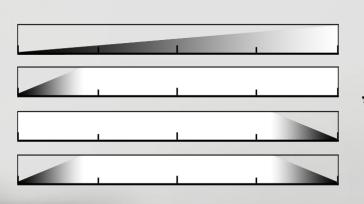


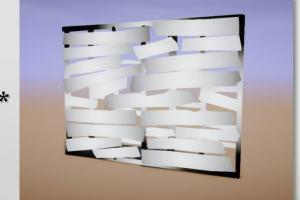
Self-Building Structures: Secondary Motion





Final Anim= (Anim Gradient * 3D Falloff) + previously calculated Anim







Self-Building Structures: Secondary Motion







Self-Building Structures: Secondary Motion

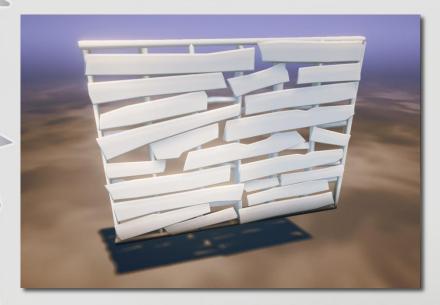
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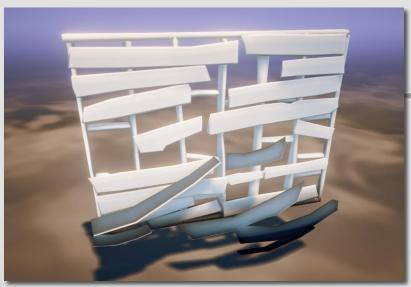
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- Per-board animation
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Self-Building Structures: Masking







Masking value = clamp ((Z test + (1-current animation value)),0,1)



Self-Building Structures: Notes



Notes:

- Collision
- » Bounding Box
- > Performance
- > Normals

EPIC

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Conclusion:

- Cost effective
- > Unique capabilities
- Gameplay limitations





Questions?

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